

Daily Digest

HIGHLIGHTS

Senate passed H.R. 2642, Military Construction and Veterans Affairs Appropriations Act.

Senate passed H.R. 2764, Department Of State and Foreign Operations Appropriations Act.

Senate

Chamber Action

Routine Proceedings, pages S11129–S11239

Measures Introduced: Eleven bills and one resolution were introduced, as follows: S. 2020–2030, and S. Res. 309. **Page S11213**

Measures Reported:

S. Res. 134, designating September 2007 as “Adopt a School Library Month”.

S. Res. 282, supporting the goals and ideals of a National Polycystic Kidney Disease Awareness Week to raise public awareness and understanding of polycystic kidney disease and to foster understanding of the impact polycystic kidney disease has on patients and future generations of their families.

S. Res. 288, designating September 2007 as “National Prostate Cancer Awareness Month”.

S. Res. 292, designating the week beginning September 9, 2007, as “National Assisted Living Week”.

S. Res. 301, recognizing the 50th anniversary of the desegregation of Little Rock Central High School, one of the most significant events in the American civil rights movement. **Page S11213**

Measures Passed:

Military Construction and Veterans Affairs Appropriations Act, 2008: By 92 yeas and 1 nay (Vote No. 316), Senate passed H.R. 2642, making appropriations for military construction, the Department of Veterans Affairs, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2008, after taking action on the following amendments proposed thereto:

Pages S11137–44

Adopted:

By 76 yeas and 15 nays (Vote No. 313), Coleman Amendment No. 2687, to provide funding for security associated with the national party conventions.

Pages S11137–40

Sanders Amendment No. 2664, to prohibit the Secretary of Veterans Affairs, with respect to increases in dollar amounts for the payment of disability compensation and dependency and indemnity compensation, from rounding down such dollar amounts to the next lower whole dollar.

Pages S11140–41

By 47 yeas and 45 nays (Vote No. 314), Salazar Amendment No. 2662, to prohibit the use of funds to expand the boundaries or size of the Pinon Canyon Maneuver Site, Colorado.

Page S11141

By 52 yeas and 39 nays (Vote No. 315), Brown/ Webb Amendment No. 2673, to limit the cases in which funds appropriated or otherwise made available by this Act may be used to convert to contractor performance an activity or function of the Department of Veterans Affairs that is performed by more than 10 Federal employees.

Pages S11141–42

Senate insisted on its amendment, requested a conference with the House thereon, and the Chair was authorized to appoint the following conferees on the part of the Senate: Senators Johnson, Inouye, Landrieu, Byrd, Murray, Reed, Nelson (NE), Leahy, Hutchison, Craig, Brownback, Allard, McConnell, Bennett, and Cochran.

Page S11144

Department Of State And Foreign Operations Appropriations Act: By 81 yeas and 12 nays (Vote No. 325), Senate passed H.R. 2764, making appropriations for the Department of State, foreign operations, and related programs for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2008, agreeing to the committee amendment in the nature of a substitute, which will

be considered as original text for the purpose of further amendment, after taking action on the following amendments proposed thereto:

Pages S11144–S11206

Adopted:

Martinez Modified Amendment No. 2694, to promote democracy in Cuba.

Pages S11170, S11174–75, S11176

Lieberman Amendment No. 2691, to provide that, of the amount appropriated or otherwise made available for the Economic Support Fund, \$75,000,000 shall be made available for programs of the Bureau of Near Eastern Affairs of the Department of State to support democracy, the rule of law, and governance in Iran.

Pages S11184–86, S11190

By 48 yeas to 45 nays (Vote No. 318), Brownback Amendment No. 2707, to prohibit funding of organizations that support coercive abortion.

Pages S11180–81, S11190–91

By 53 yeas to 41 nays (Vote No. 319), Boxer Amendment No. 2719, to prohibit the application of certain restrictive eligibility requirements to foreign nongovernmental organizations with respect to the provision of assistance under part I of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961.

Page S11181–92

Dole Amendment No. 2772, to prohibit funds appropriated under this Act from being expended in violation of section 243(d) of the Immigration and Nationality Act.

Page S11194

Feinstein (for Dodd) Amendment No. 2721, to increase by \$10,000,000 the amount appropriated or otherwise made available by this Act for the Peace Corps, and to provide an offset.

Pages S11194–95

By 81 yeas and 10 nays (Vote No. 321), Vitter Amendment No. 2774, to prohibit the use of funds by international organizations, agencies, and entities that require the registration of, or taxes guns owned by citizens of the United States.

Pages S11193–94, S11195–96

By 92 yeas and 1 nay (Vote No. 322), Coburn Amendment No. 2773, to ensure that the United States contribution to the United Nations is not being lost to waste, fraud, abuse or corruption by maximizing the public transparency of all United Nations spending.

Pages S11189, S11196

Coburn Amendment No. 2706, to ensure full public transparency and fiscal accountability at the Global Fund to Fight HIV/AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria.

Pages S11186, S11197

Leahy (for Lugar) Amendment No. 2779, to modify the obligation of funds requirement related to Millennium Challenge Compacts.

Pages S11198–S11202

Leahy (for Coleman) Modified Amendment No. 2712, to impose restrictions on the expenditure of funds appropriated or otherwise made available for

contributions for international organizations in support of the United Nations Human Rights Council.

Pages S11198–S11202

Leahy (for Brown) Modified Amendment No. 2701, to mobilize an urgent response to the growing crisis of drug resistant tuberculosis, including extensively drug-resistant tuberculosis (XDR-TB).

Pages S11198–S11202

Leahy (for Bayh) Modified Amendment No. 2782, to require the Government Accountability Office to study the World Bank's efforts to measure the success of the projects it finances.

Pages S11198–S11202

Leahy (for Cardin) Amendment No. 2689, to increase by \$333,000 the amount appropriated or otherwise made available for the Commission on Security and Cooperation in Europe, and to provide an offset.

Pages S11198–S11202

Leahy (for Bingaman/Domenici) Amendment No. 2718, to set aside funds to repair, relocate, or replace fencing along the international border between the United States and Mexico.

Pages S11198–S11202

Leahy (for Domenici) Modified Amendment No. 2693, to improve coordination between the United States and Mexico regarding border security, criminal activity, and circular migration.

Pages S11198–S11202

Leahy (for Levin) Modified Amendment No. 2781, to express the sense of the Senate regarding the need for the President to quickly respond the deepening humanitarian and refugee crisis in Iraq.

Pages S11198–S11202

Leahy (for Coleman) Modified Amendment No. 2710, to ensure that the United Nations Development Program implements measures to increase transparency.

Pages S11198–S11202

Leahy (for Cornyn) Modified Amendment No. 2713, to provide that funds available for International Narcotics Control and Law Enforcement shall be available for support of efforts of foreign law enforcement authorities to locate United States citizens who have been kidnapped in areas affected by violent drug trafficking.

Pages S11198–S11202

Leahy (for Cornyn) Amendment No. 2771, to require a report regarding the use by U.S. Customs and Border Protection of flood control levees under the control of the International Boundary and Water Commission.

Pages S11198–S11202

Leahy (for McCaskill) Modified Amendment No. 2709, to require the Secretary of State to establish and maintain on the home page of the Web site of the Department of State a direct link to the Web site for the Office of Inspector General of the Department of State.

Pages S11198–S11202

Leahy (for Alexander) Amendment No. 2703, to increase by \$8,000,000 the amount appropriated or

otherwise made available for the Overseas Private Investment Corporation under the heading "Program Account", and to provide an offset.

Pages S11198–S11202

Leahy (for Kyl) Amendment No. 2723, to provide funds for the repair or replacement of the Nogales Wash Control Project and the International Outfall Interceptor.

Pages S11198–S11202

Leahy (for Gregg) Amendment No. 2727, to require increased transparency and accountability at the World Bank.

Pages S11198–S11202

Leahy (for Gregg) Amendment No. 2726, relative to the establishment of a United States-Egypt Friendship Endowment.

Pages S11198–S11202

Leahy (for Gregg) Amendment No. 2725, to require increased transparency and accountability regarding foreign assistance.

Pages S11198–S11202

Leahy (for Gregg) Amendment No. 2728, to prohibit assistance for Iraq, and to require a report on the extent that the Government of Iraq is committed to combating corruption in Iraq.

Pages S11198–S11202

Leahy Amendment No. 2730, to require the Department of State to establish visa processing operations in Iraq.

Pages S11198–S11202

Leahy Modified Amendment No. 2733, to providing funding for programs to locate persons missing as a result of armed conflict, violations of human rights, and natural disasters.

Pages S11198–S11202

Leahy Modified Amendment No. 2734, to provide a United States contribution to the International Commission Against Impunity in Guatemala.

Pages S11198–S11202

Leahy Amendment No. 2735, to provide flexibility for the use of aircraft provided to Colombia.

Pages S11198–S11202

Leahy Amendment No. 2736, to limit contamination of natural water sources and protect food security.

Pages S11198–S11202

Leahy Amendment No. 2737, to expand the existing human rights certification to assistance for the Bolivian police.

Pages S11198–S11202

Leahy Amendment No. 2738, to condition assistance relating to the Western Sahara.

Pages S11198–S11202

Leahy Amendment No. 2740, relative to unobligated balances.

Pages S11198–S11202

Leahy Amendment No. 2741, to increase the limitation on representational expenses for the Inter-American Foundation.

Pages S11198–S11202

Leahy Amendment No. 2742, relative to Nepal.

Pages S11198–S11202

Leahy Amendment No. 2743, to provide a United States contribution for assistance for civilian victims in Afghanistan.

Pages S11198–S11202

Leahy Amendment No. 2744, to prohibit assistance for countries that the President determines

grant sanctuary to any individual or group which has committed a gross violation of human rights.

Pages S11198–S11202

Leahy Amendment No. 2746, to provide authority for assistance to former combatants.

Pages S11198–S11202

Leahy Amendment No. 2747, to prohibit prior approval of foreign governments relating to assistance for democracy, human rights and governance activities.

Pages S11198–S11202

Leahy Amendment No. 2748, relative to Presidential discretion.

Pages S11198–S11202

Leahy Amendment No. 2749, to provide clarification relating to assistance for Central and South America.

Pages S11198–S11202

Leahy Amendment No. 2750, relative to illegal armed groups.

Pages S11198–S11202

Leahy Amendment No. 2751, relative to illegal armed groups.

Pages S11198–S11202

Leahy Amendment No. 2752, relative to Sudan.

Pages S11198–S11202

Leahy Amendment No. 2753, relative to monitoring of assistance.

Pages S11198–S11202

Leahy Amendment No. 2754, to provide funding for wildlife conservation in Southern Sudan.

Pages S11198–S11202

Leahy Amendment No. 2755, relative to Uzbekistan.

Pages S11198–S11202

Leahy Amendment No. 2756, relative to assistance for the countries of Central Asia.

Pages S11198–S11202

Leahy Amendment No. 2757, relative to a coordinator of activities relating to indigenous people internationally.

Pages S11198–S11202

Leahy Amendment No. 2758, relative to demobilization assistance for Colombia.

Pages S11198–S11202

Leahy Amendment No. 2759, to clarify conditions on assistance for Indonesia.

Pages S11198–S11202

Leahy Amendment No. 2760, to clarify conditions on military assistance for Guatemala.

Pages S11198–S11202

Leahy Amendment No. 2761, to restrict assistance for countries that recruit child soldiers.

Pages S11198–S11202

Leahy Amendment No. 2762, to clarify conditions on assistance for the Philippines.

Pages S11198–S11202

Leahy Amendment No. 2764, to add conditions relating to assistance for Sri Lanka.

Pages S11198–S11202

Leahy Amendment No. 2765, relative to the Millennium Challenge Corporation.

Pages S11198–S11202

Leahy Amendment No. 2766, to deny visas for officials of foreign governments and their families who have been involved in corruption relating to the extraction of natural resources.

Pages S11198–S11202

Leahy Modified Amendment No. 2767, to provide continued support for informal dialogue relating to North Korea.
Pages S11198–S11202

Leahy Modified Amendment No. 2769, to provide funding to support the peace process in northern Uganda.
Pages S11198–S11202

Leahy (for Obama/Hagel) Amendment No. 2692, to require a comprehensive nuclear threat reduction and security plan.
Pages S11198–S11202

Leahy (for Kyl/Coleman) Amendment No. 2784, to exclude aliens who have engaged in or advocated terrorist activity on behalf of or received military-type training from a Tier I or II terrorist organization from eligibility for relief from terrorism-related immigration bars.
Pages S11198–S11202

Leahy Amendment No. 2785, to provide funding for secondary wastewater treatment, consistent with the Committee report.
Pages S11198–S11202

Leahy (for Kyl) Amendment No. 2786, to express the sense of the Senate regarding actions needed on the part of the Government of Egypt to promote the rule of law and reduce the smuggling of weapons into Gaza.
Pages S11198–S11202

Leahy Amendment No. 2787, relative to Office of Private and Voluntary Cooperation.
Pages S11198–S11202

Leahy Amendment No. 2788, relative to the Democracy Fund.
Pages S11198–S11202

Leahy (for Biden/Lugar) Amendment No. 2789, to enable the Department of State to respond to a critical shortage of passport processing personnel.
Pages S11198–S11202

Rejected:

By 30 yeas to 63 nays (Vote No. 317), Ensign Amendment No. 2700, to strike the provisions in section 113 that increases the limit on the United States' share for United Nations peacekeeping operations during fiscal year 2008 from 25 percent to 27.1 percent so that the United States does not pay more than its fair share for United Nations peacekeeping.
Pages S11184–90

By 41 yeas to 53 nays (Vote No. 320), Brownback Amendment No. 2708, to prevent contributions to organizations that perform or promote abortion as a method of family planning.
Pages S11177–80, S11192–93

By 46 yeas and 47 nays (Vote No. 323), Coburn Amendment No. 2716, to provide for the spending of \$106,763,000 on programs that save children's lives, such as the President's Malaria Initiative, rather than lower priority programs, such as the Global Environment Facility, which produce few results and are managed by the United Nations Development Program, which utilizes corrupt procurement prac-

tices, operates contrary to United Nations rules, and retaliates against whistleblowers.
Pages S11186, S11196–97

By 33 yeas and 60 nays (Vote No. 324), Coburn Amendment No. 2704, to provide that none of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available by this Act for "Contribution to the International Development Association" may be made available for the World Bank for malaria control or prevention programs.
Pages S11186, S11197

Withdrawn:

Martinez Amendment No. 2695, to increase the funding for broadcasts to Cuba and to provide an offset.
Pages S11170–71, S11176

Martinez Amendment No. 2696, to modify the conditions on the availability of funds for the aerial eradication of coca in Colombia to address circumstances where manual eradication is too impractical or risky and to limit the requirement to implement programs to provide alternative sources of income to areas where conditions exist for successful alternative development.
Pages S11171, S11176

Martinez Amendment No. 2697, to increase by \$30,000,000 the amount appropriated or otherwise made available for "Andean Programs" and available for aerial eradication of coca in Colombia, and to provide an offset.
Pages S11171–72, S11176

Coburn Amendment No. 2705, to provide for the spending of \$106,763,000 on programs that save children's lives, such as the President's Malaria Initiative, rather than lower priority programs, such as the Global Environment Facility, which produce few results and are managed by the United Nations Development Program, which utilizes corrupt procurement practices, operates contrary to United Nations rules, and retaliates against whistleblowers.
Pages S11186–89

Senate insisted on its amendment, requested a conference with the House thereon, and the Chair was authorized to appoint the following conferees on the part of the Senate: Senators Leahy, Inouye, Harkin, Mikulski, Durbin, Johnson, Landrieu, Reed, Byrd, Gregg, McConnell, Specter, Bennett, Bond, Brownback, Alexander, and Cochran.
Page S11206

Measures Considered:

Higher Education Access Act Conference Report—Agreement: Senate began consideration of the conference report to accompany H.R. 2669, to provide for reconciliation pursuant to section 601 of the concurrent resolution on the budget for fiscal year 2008.
Page S11206, S11236–37

A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing that at 9 a.m. on Friday, September 7, 2007, Senate continue consideration of the conference report, that there be 75 minutes equally divided for

debate between the Chairman and Ranking Member of the Committee on Health, Education, Labor and Pensions, and that Senate vote on adoption of the conference report at 10:15 a.m. **Page S11193**

Migratory and Transboundary Fish Stocks—Referral Agreement: On Wednesday, September 5, 2007, a unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing that the Committee on Foreign Relations be discharged from further consideration of S.J. Res. 17, directing the United States to initiate international discussions and take necessary steps with other Nations to negotiate an agreement for managing migratory and transboundary fish stocks in the Arctic Ocean, and the bill then be referred to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

Nominations Received: Senate received the following nominations:

Stanley Thomas Anderson, of Tennessee, to be United States District Judge for the Western District of Tennessee.

E. Duncan Getchell, Jr., of Virginia, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Fourth Circuit.

Steve A. Matthews, of South Carolina, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Fourth Circuit.

John A. Mendez, of California, to be United States District Judge for the Eastern District of California.

1 Army nomination in the rank of general.

1 Navy nomination in the rank of admiral.

Routine lists in the Air Force, Army, Coast Guard, Foreign Service, Marine Corps, Navy.

Pages S11238–39

Nomination Withdrawn: Senate received notification of withdrawal of the following nomination:

Mary O. Donohue, of New York, to be United States District Judge for the Northern District of New York, which was sent to the Senate on January 9, 2007.

Page S11239

Messages from the House: **Pages S11209–10**

Measures Referred: **Page S11210**

Executive Communications: **Pages S11210–13**

Executive Reports of Committees: **Page S11213**

Additional Cosponsors: **Pages S11213–15**

Statements on Introduced Bills/Resolutions: **Pages S11215–19**

Additional Statements: **Pages S11208–09**

Amendments Submitted: **Pages S11219–36**

Notices of Hearings/Meetings: **Page S11236**

Authorities for Committees to Meet: **Page S11236**

Record Votes: Thirteen record votes were taken today. (Total—325)

Pages S11140, S11141, S11142, S11144, S11190, S11191, S11191–92, S11193, S11196, S11197, S11205

Adjournment: Senate convened at 9:30 a.m. and adjourned at 10:17 p.m., until 8:55 a.m. on Friday, September 7, 2007. (For Senate's program, see the remarks of the Acting Majority Leader in today's Record on page S11206.)

Committee Meetings

(Committees not listed did not meet)

IRAQI SECURITY FORCES INDEPENDENT ASSESSMENT COMMISSION

Committee on Armed Services: Committee concluded a hearing to examine a report on the findings of the Iraqi Security Forces Independent Assessment Commission, receiving testimony from General James L. Jones, Jr., USMC (Ret.), Chairman, General George A. Joulwan, USA (Ret.), Chief Charles H. Ramsey, John J. Hamre, General John N. Abrams, USA (Ret.), Lieutenant General Martin R. Berndt, USMC (Ret.), Admiral Gregory G. Johnson, USN (Ret.), Sergeant Major Alford L. McMichael, USMC (Ret.), and Lieutenant General James C. King, USA (Ret.), all of the Iraqi Security Forces Independent Assessment Commission.

MILITARY DETAINEES

Committee on Armed Services: Committee met in closed session to receive a briefing regarding the treatment of detainees from certain members of the intelligence community.

CONFINED ANIMAL OPERATION INDUSTRY

Committee on Environment and Public Works: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the potential human health, water quality, and other impacts of the confined animal feeding operation industry, after receiving testimony from Robert M. Hirsch, Associate Director for Water, United States Geological Survey, Department of the Interior; Benjamin H. Grumbles, Assistant Administrator for Water, Environmental Protection Agency; W.A. Drew Edmondson, Oklahoma Attorney General, Oklahoma City; Leonard Blackham, Utah Department of Agriculture and Food, Salt Lake City, on behalf of the National Association of State Departments of Agriculture; Catharine Fitzsimmons, Iowa Department of Natural Resources, Urbandale, on behalf of the National Association of Clean Air Agencies; Thomas P. Bonacquisti, Loudoun County Sanitation Authority,